

THE U.F.A.

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Vol. I.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, SEPTEMBER 1, 1922

No. 13

Shall We Go Forward or Turn Back?

By H. W. Wood

I have been asked to write something in regard to the movement among the farmers' Federal members to re-organize themselves on some different basis, and to start a movement of their own. Some of the details of this re-organization have not been made entirely clear, but it has been made clear that it is proposed to separate the group of elected members entirely from the organizations that were instrumental in electing them.

After the group of elected members has severed its connection with the organized electorate, it is to create some kind of a central committee which, among other things, will be responsible for financing the new movement, and actively disseminating educational or doctrinal propaganda. It would seem from available information that this committee would also be responsible for the directing of the political activities of the adherents of this new group in future elections. This, however, has not been made very clear. Whether members will be under the guidance of the central committee, or the central committee will be under the guidance of the elected members has not been made clear.

It is clear that the idea is to revert to the political party system, but whether or not the intention is to stand alone as a separate and distinct party, to be drawn into some other party, or to amalgamate with some other party or fraction of a party into an entirely new one, is not clear.

These, however, are minor details, and I have no inclination to discuss them at this time. The vital question we are called on to decide is whether we want to continue to exercise our citizenship rights, and try to fulfill our citizenship obligations through the medium of citizenship organization, or through the medium of the political party system. Our first decision must be in regard to the formation of the political group; whether we want to move together through organization, or break up our citizenship organization and act as individuals, each individual being thus forced to attach himself with one or other of the contending, unorganized political parties. This fixes the discussion on the relative merits of the organized political "group" and the "political party." What advantage has either of these formations over the other?

Let us begin with the organized formation, or the so-called group system. Through this system the citizens are enabled to initiate and carry on every step of their own political activities. In other words they operate their own political machinery. They select their own delegates to attend nominating conventions; each delegate representing a certain definite number of citizens. These delegates, who are answerable to and influenced by no one except the people who selected them, carry on the work of the convention, including the nomination of the candidate.

When the candidate is thus nominated, it is the duty of the citizens who initiated his nomination to finance and carry on his campaign. This is a purely democratic process, and

Since the proposal that the farmers' organizations should withdraw from active politics was first made known, "The U.F.A." has received requests from members in various parts of the Province, including some Presidents of U.F.A. Federal Constituency Associations, for information regarding the meaning of recent developments. "The U.F.A." has accordingly requested President Wood, who has not hitherto published any statement upon this matter, to prepare an article outlining the present situation. In this issue he discusses the vitally important differences between the organized political group and the party system, which, it has been proposed, should supersede the present plan of political action financed and controlled by the people themselves. Reference to the proposals has been made editorially in former issues of "The U.F.A."

such a process can not be carried on politically except through the systematic organization of the people. At least no other way has yet been made manifest.

The Political Party is not an organization. If the farmers should inaugurate a straight farmers' party and adopt a straight farmers' platform, they could not carry on democratically because the political party structure cannot implement democratic political action. To turn from organized political action, in which the people move systematically from the bottom up, is to turn from democracy. To turn

to the political party, which is to be guided by an executive committee—guided from the top down—is to turn back to individualism and political autocracy. In fact, it is difficult to understand how those who advocate this backward turning can really believe in democracy. They apparently agree with what has been the almost universal opinion of the past, that the people have not, and that they cannot develop, capacity for self-government.

It is not manifest that they do not believe in organization, but it is the organization of citizenship that they do not believe in. They believe in a form of organization in the interest of politicians, but which is not in the interest of the people. They believe in an organization for the people to serve, rather than an organization to serve the people. They propose to organize a Central Committee to get the money to carry on, to steer the people into their particular political party, to serve their particular professional politicians; to develop "public opinion," and to do the thinking for, instead of thinking with the people.

This kind of educational process has been going on for over two centuries, and the outstanding result is that the people have finally been educated into the belief that they will have to do some thinking, and also some acting, for themselves. This they have begun to do. They have actually made some democratic progress—not much, but a little. Through organization they are travelling the right road. If they keep travelling the right road they will eventually reach the right destination—but if they turn back—? We are asked to turn back to the old political party flesh-pots. Will we do it?

But, without discussing the merits of democratic organization itself, they tell us that the farmers are organized on the wrong basis. They say that organized on this basis we are narrow, selfish, Bolshevistic, etc., etc. All of this seems to have a pleasing sound to the ear of the autocrat and the professional politician, but it doesn't prove anything, mean anything, nor get anywhere. If it is wrong for citizens to organize, tell us so and tell us why. If it is right for them to organize, and the farmers are organized on the wrong basis, tell them what the right basis is, and how they can organize on that basis. They will listen to reason; they desire wise counsel.

In the meantime we can judge the efficiency of the poli-
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Vol. I.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, SEPTEMBER 1, 1922

No. 13

EDITORIAL

Definite proposals looking to the abandonment by the United Farmers of Ontario of the distinctive character of their organization as a group of farmers in active politics, have been made by Premier Drury in a circular letter addressed to all U. F. O. members of the Ontario Legislature. The letter, dated July 13th, and described as a "confidential" document, was not published in the press until the middle of August. Members of the Assembly were invited to submit, confidentially, lists of urban friends who would be willing to attend a general convention with a view to the creation of the new party, to be known as the "Progressive Party."

According to the Farmers' Sun, the letter was not received by the members with as great enthusiasm as the Premier had anticipated. The Sun is definitely opposed to the proposed reversion to the party system. J. J. Morrison, Secretary of the U. F. O., and a large number of members of the organization have condemned the new proposals, and are actively resisting their execution. Attention has been called to the fact that the organization, and not the elected representative, is responsible for policy, that the members themselves are answerable to the organization in the constituencies that elected them, and that they have no right, even if they so desire, to abandon, as the result of secret negotiations, the principles which they were elected to maintain.

Commenting on Premier Drury's letter, Mr. Morrison declared: "I have only this statement to make: One would have thought that before launching definitely a proposal which, if it is successful, must inevitably destroy the distinctive character of the farmers' movement, he would have asked his supporters to consult their rural constituents and learn their views. Instead he has chosen to ignore the farmers who have loyally stood by him, and made his approach directly and exclusively to the people in the cities and towns. I heard that such a letter had been sent by the Premier some time ago, but I had hoped that better counsel would prevail, and that a move fraught with so much menace to the farmer movement, and personally to the elected men, might have been reconsidered."

The Farmers' Sun expresses regret that the Premier has seen fit to take a step which "cannot but harm the farmer movement, whatever the outcome may be," and adds: "This paper was brought into being as the voice of the United Farmers of Ontario. It has tried to be true to its colors. The Sun owes first allegiance, not to individuals, but to the farmers' movement, and it is convinced that faithfulness to its trust bars it from accepting and supporting a plan that no thoughtful man can fail to realize must end in undoing all the work of the past few years."

The developments in Ontario are the firstfruits of the Dominion-wide campaign now being carried on with a view to the withdrawal of the farmers' organizations from active politics. The issue is engaging the attention of the daily newspapers almost to the exclusion of all other political discussion. Already, in the press of Eastern Canada, a cry with

which the farmers of the West were made familiar when they first entered the field of politics has been raised, newspapers which have hitherto been conspicuous by their fairness and accuracy, joining, in some cases, with the less scrupulous press—the Montreal Witness, for example, declaring on August 23rd that the issue lies between those who "want to act constitutionally and those who want the Farmers' organizations to dictate to the country after the manner of the Russian Soviets."

The descent of the Witness into yellowism is the more remarkable in that less than a month ago, under the title "Machine vs. Group Politics", this paper contained a well-balanced article critically discussing the organized farmers' plan of action. While contending that ideal conditions in representation have not as yet been established, the Witness said: "The fact that the choosing of candidates is local and unembarrassed by party exigencies is, in theory, a great improvement. These rural candidates are at least the genuine choice of the constituencies. How far the actual choice is practically in the hands of some official clique of the U. F. A. or U. F. M. we do not know. Nor do we know how far this unsophisticated regime may change as the organization develops into a parliamentary party, first Provincial and then national. But everything has been done that could be done to secure the choice of the local electors, and with that choice, the instruction of the representatives as to measures and principles. And so far it seems to have found capable and sterling men at call. As to any dangers, we trouble ourselves little. The member has to be the choice of the local majority, or at least plurality, and the need of co-operating with a majority in the House seems to be a pretty good guarantee against any hard and fast group dictation."

When, within a few weeks, a newspaper which has hitherto followed the lines of fair criticism, can undergo so complete a change of front, the nature of the attack of less scrupulous party newspapers need cause no surprise.

The Manitoba Free Press, which has always been a supporter of the party system, is now openly attacking the plan of democratic action upon which the farmers' organizations have been founded. At the close of an editorial in support of Premier Drury's efforts to re-establish the party system in Ontario, the Free Press recently said: "He (Premier Drury) is resisting the Morrison policy, and so far as reducing it to a practical nullity is concerned, there can be no question of his success; but nevertheless, it is quite on the cards that he will be himself destroyed in the struggle."

The prediction that Premier Drury can reduce the policy of the U. F. O. to a nullity is happily not borne out by the information which "The U. F. A." has received from Ontario. The Ontario daily press, a portion of which has shown a strong bias against the U. F. O. policy, itself contains strong evidence to the contrary. But "The U. F. A." has received even stronger evidence in direct communications from Ontario, which show that at meetings now being held by the United Farmers at local points the people are almost unanimous in their adherence to the principles of their organization, and in denunciation of the wrecking policy.

The Place of Education in the Life of the Community

By Hon. Perren E. Baker

In these days the economic problem presses hard. No one can fail to recognize the grim nature of the struggle that is being waged against drought, wind, hail and frost, grasshoppers, cut-worm, wireworm, gopher and saw-fly; against French weed, mustard and Russian thistle, high rates of interest, high freight rates, depressed markets, and distance from town and school. In spite of these difficulties which so sorely try us at the present time, the people of this Province are going to win through, and come out on the clearer spaces beyond just as their forefathers have done for generations. Struggle and hardship are no new thing in the world.

End of Human Effort

But what is it all about? It is for life, more life. Everywhere nature is constantly struggling to produce life, more varied and more abundant. This too, I take it, is in the final analysis the ultimate aim of all human effort. In the city and in the solitudes, among rich and poor, in whatever varied and mistaken ways, every man is seeking a broader, fuller, more satisfying life. This is the aim of all religions, whether their hope for attainment be in this world or in some world beyond; it is the aim of all societies, clubs and "movements"—it is the aim of the United Farmers of Alberta. To this end the organization interests itself in government, having to do with the making of the laws under which we are to live, with the administration of these laws and the carrying on of the many-sided business of the state. It interests itself in a score of matters having to do with economic conditions, such as wheat marketing, freight rates, tariffs, various ventures in co-operative buying, and sometimes in the amount of money legislators vote to pay themselves for their services to the state.

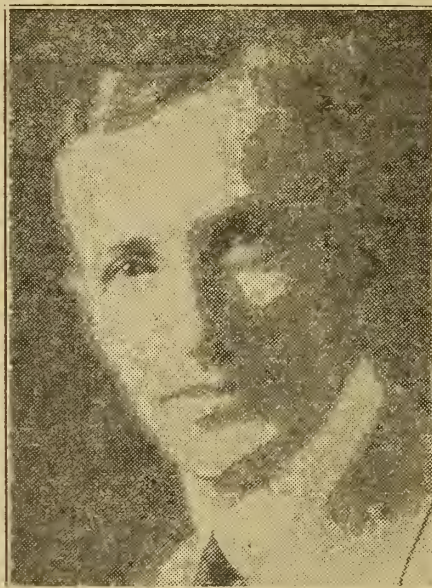
Our concern about all these things is legitimate and necessary. The rare genius and the high saint may work out his destiny and attain the heights, giving no thought to what he shall eat, or what he shall drink, or wherewithal he shall be clothed, but my neighbors and I find ourselves seriously hampered when the crop fails. Before the life can be rich and full it must exist; it must be fed, clothed and housed, and a greater degree of prosperity must come before life on the farms of Alberta can be what it should be. There is nothing to be gained by ignoring the facts. The eagle may soar above the clouds and exult in the clear sunlight beyond, but in spite of the marvels of modern invention, the world's work must be done by men who have their feet on the ground.

An Easily Forgotten Truth

Admitting all this, there is a truth I would have daily cried from the rooftops and burnt into the soul of every man: That the life is more than meat and the body than raiment. This truth has been known to the seers of all ages. In our wonder and pride at man's increasing mastery over the forces of nature we tend to forget it. In the struggle for the means of living we lose

the life. To put it more definitely, food, clothing, shelter, however indispensable, are the means; the life itself is the thing. The means may be possessed in abundance, even to the point of luxury, and the life remain a poor contemptible thing. The money a man makes is one thing; what he becomes is something quite other, and it is of more importance that in the end he should stand forth a splendid individual, his powers of body and mind fully developed, his character sound and noble, than that he should amass a fortune.

Education is the process of that very expansion of the life which is so universally sought in such diverse and indirect ways. It begins at birth and should continue to the end of life. Many agencies are at work to accomplish it.



HON PERREN E. BAKER

Minister of Education in the Alberta Government

Hunger and want are powerful dynamics. Ambition is a beckoning lure; the church and religion play their part, as do the many human relationships and activities that go to make up the common workaday life.

Without abating in the smallest measure its efforts to improve the conditions of living, the U. F. A. can do much more than has yet been done by aiming directly at its goal—the improvement of the people themselves. We have an almost childish faith in what governments, laws, systems and movements can do for us. In the end every individual like every community must to a great extent work out his own salvation. Given the best laws, with the best governments and the best institutions that human intelligence can evolve, the task of making something of himself remains with the individual and the type of life in each community will depend on the type of individuals composing it.

Arrange Winter's Program

Every Local should be taking early steps to arrange a winter's program that will make for a widening of knowledge and a greater development of the abilities of its members. Helpful suggestions for this may be gotten from the Central Office. Material for debates, reading courses and dramatic performances may be secured from the Extension Department of the University of Alberta. School inspectors, school teachers, local ministers, and others can be easily pressed into the service. There is no end of material for the making of good meetings where there is the will to make use of what is available. The U. F. A. is already a powerful educational force though its possibilities have scarcely yet begun to be realized.

Undoubtedly the school is the most important single agency for education. Although examples can be cited of men who have made a conspicuous success of their lives without the advantage of a formal education, they have been men of great natural ability, who by strong effort have succeeded in accomplishing by themselves what the school is designed to assist the pupil in doing, and it is not necessary in these days to point out the advantages of a proper education. The people of Alberta have shown their appreciation of its value by planting schools all over this Province. It is probable that in the settlement of no country has the school followed the pioneer more closely than in that of Western Canada. In the main, the schools are good schools and the teachers fairly efficient and earnest in their work, and while no effort should be spared to improve the schools, and in many districts there needs to be provision made for high school work, I am convinced that a great step forward would be made if public opinion could be aroused so that we would to the fullest extent use what we have got.

Co-operate With the Teacher

Too many children leave school before they have passed through the Eighth Grade. It must be admitted that in some cases distance from school and lack of means for operating the school for the full term are the causes, but in too many instances it is the result of irregular attendance which need not have been. The child who is absent a day here and a day there soon falls behind his class; then he gets discouraged and thinks he does not like school, and soon there is a constant struggle to get him to go and as soon as the law allows he drops out altogether. If this failure to take advantage of the education that is being offered in the common rural school were recognized as the calamity it really is there would soon be a great improvement in this respect. Why could not the U. F. A. Locals appoint a committee whose business it would be to co-operate with the teacher in encouraging these lagging ones, who are in danger of suffering a serious handicap which will remain with them to the end of life?

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The Fight for the Restoration of the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement

By Joseph T. Shaw, M.P. for West Calgary

One of the most difficult problems which came before the last session of the Federal Parliament was the matter of freight rates and the relation thereto of the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement. A short historical synopsis may be of value in placing this problem in its proper perspective.

Terms of C.P.R. Charter

In order to develop the agricultural wealth of the western prairies and to comply with the terms of Confederation, the Dominion Government granted a charter to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for the purpose of constructing its present transcontinental line. In consideration of this construction the railway company received \$25,000,000 in cash and a grant of 25,000,000 acres of land in the prairie Provinces, with tax exemption privileges not only applying to the land grant, but also to the right-of-way, stock and equipment used for railway purposes. Under its charter the company was to have absolute control over its freight rates until it declared a dividend of ten per cent. on its capital stock, and thereafter the rate control was to be vested in the railway committee of the Privy Council of Canada.

It was early recognized that Western Canada was the chief hope of our Confederation, and that cheap transportation was a primary requisite to any reasonable development of the agricultural and industrial interests of that portion of Canada. Shortly after construction was completed the need for reasonable freight rates was apparent because the railway company in the absence of any western rate controlling factor, except the dividend provision already mentioned, charged exorbitant freight rates in the prairie Provinces both upon outgoing and upon incoming commodities. The high freight rates in force proved a serious handicap not only to the agricultural interests but to all other pioneer industries in the west. However, a large measure of relief came in a most unexpected manner.

The Agreement of 1898

In the early years of its existence the Canadian Pacific built a line from Medicine Hat to Lethbridge and was anxious, provided the Government would assist financially, to continue this line as far west as Kootenay Landing, B.C., in order to tap the immense coal wealth then known to exist in the interior of British Columbia. Many, seeking relief from the high freight rates, suggested a scheme for building a Government railway between these points. It was urged that such a competing railway would cause an early and much-needed reduction in western freight rates, but opponents contended with much truth that competition amongst railways was a bygone superstition, and in proof of this pointed to the harmonious co-operation existing between the so-called competing railways in the United States. They further urged that what was vitally needed was rate regulation.

The latter view ultimately prevailed, and in 1898 an agreement was entered

In the article published on this page Captain J. T. Shaw, M.C., M.P., gives a brief outline of the history of the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement of 1898, and describes the proceedings in Parliament which led to the restoration of the agreement this year, in respect to freight rates on grain and flour. Captain Shaw, the Independent member for West Calgary, who was endorsed by the U.F.A. and Labor in the election of 1921, himself took an active part in the Parliamentary struggle for the restoration of the agreement. He was the only Alberta member on the Special Committee on Railway Transportation Costs. As previously shown, the restoration of the Crow's Nest Pass rates adds \$36 to the returns which will be received by Alberta farmers from every fifty acres of land yielding ten bushels of wheat per acre. This is one of the first fruits of political action by organized farmers in the Federal field.

into between the Government of Canada and the Canadian Pacific under which that railway company undertook the extension of its line from Lethbridge to Kootenay Landing, receiving in consideration a subsidy of \$3,404,000. The railway company agreed to effect certain stipulated rate reductions on named commodities both east bound and west bound, and the reduced rates were agreed upon as permanent maxima. The east bound commodities were grain and flour, which were then, as now, the staple products of the prairies. The west bound articles were of some thirteen classes, but at the present time only two of these classes, agricultural implements and household furniture, are of much significance to the west.

Price of Relief Against Monopoly

This agreement is known as the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement, and is incorporated in the Statutes of Canada. The agreement was the price of relief against a railway monopoly; it represented an effort to retrieve past follies by concluding this rate controlling pact fixing by statute the maximum freight rates chargeable on specified articles. East of the Great Lakes freight rates were controlled by water and American rail competition. These factors were absent in Western Canada, but the west now had as its sheet anchor this agreement fixing in perpetuity the maximum freight rates chargeable. Before the agreement was entered into the rate on grain from Calgary to Fort William was 29 cents per 100 pounds, but after the agreement became effective the maximum rate fixed for that haul was 26 cents per 100 pounds. Corresponding reductions on all named commodities were made in proportion to the length of haul.

The Crow's Nest maximum rates were effective for about four years when, owing to an arrangement between the Canadian Northern Railway and the Manitoba Government, the Canadian Pacific was forced to reduce its rates below the statutory maxima, so that, for example, the Calgary rate on grain to Fort William was reduced to 24 cents per 100 pounds. These lower rates prevailed

until March 1st, 1918, when a 15 per cent. increase became effective. The Canadian railways applied to the Railway Commission for this rate increase, and pointed out in justification of their application the increased cost of labor and material. The Commission granted the increase, but finding itself bound by the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement, made its award subject to that agreement. It will be noted, therefore, that on the 1st of March, 1918, the Crow's Nest Agreement again became useful in controlling maximum freight rates, but it did not long remain effective.

Increase Under War Measures Act

Within a very few months the railways applied for a further increase, but this time the application was made to the Governor-in-Council under the provisions of the all-embracing War Measures Act. Under that act the Governor-in-Council directed the Railway Commission to grant the further increases asked for, and in doing so to ignore the provisions of all rate controlling agreements, statutory or otherwise. However, with the declaration of peace the War Measures Act became ineffective and Parliament thereupon passed an amendment to the Railway Act, giving the Railway Commission the power, if it saw fit, to disregard all such special agreements for a further period of three years from the 6th July, 1919. Thus it is apparent that under this legislation the power of the Railway Commission to disregard special agreements, and in particular, the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement, would terminate on 6th July, 1922, unless Parliament should, in the meantime, otherwise enact. Under its added powers the Railway Commission in September, 1920, granted a further increase of 35 per cent., so that under that increase the Calgary rate on grain to Fort William was now raised to 40½ cents per 100 pounds. With the exception of two small decreases the freight rates were maintained at that high standard until action was taken during the last session of Parliament.

Railway Executives Approach Cabinet

The railway executives approached the Cabinet about the commencement of the last session and asked for a further suspension of the Crow's Nest Agreement, urging that they intended to grant a substantial reduction on basic commodities and that such a rate decrease was preferable and more in the public interest than the restoration of the agreement. The Cabinet thereupon recommended to Parliament that a special Parliamentary Committee be formed to hear all evidence and to determine what action should be taken. The Cabinet's recommendation carried on the 8th of May last in the House of Commons despite the opposition of both the Conservative and Progressive forces. The Progressives urged that the time was ripe for a reduction to the Crow's Nest rates and that a Committee investigation was therefore unnecessary. The Conservatives on their part opposed the

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The Provincial Secretary's Page

Information For Officers and Members.

THE MEMBERSHIP FEE

In response to enquiries as to whether the increased membership fee has had any effect in retarding the payment of membership dues, H. Higginbotham, Provincial Secretary, states:

"It is very difficult to judge what effect the increased fee has had on our membership this year. My own impression received from correspondence, as well as meeting U. F. A. people, is that the membership fee has made little difference. I believe that we would have had just about as much difficulty in collecting the \$2.00 fee as we are having in collecting the \$3.00 fee in this particular year. Objections were raised to increasing the fee from \$1.00 to \$2.00 and there has been little more objection, so far as our correspondence shows, to this increase than to the last increase. Any fee would be hard to collect with agricultural conditions as they are at the present time.

Needed Organization Work

"From the point of view of the work being carried on by the organization, if the former increase was necessary, the latest increase was doubly necessary. If a membership fee of more than \$2.00 per year for the Local and Provincial organizations cannot be provided to build up a successful farmers' organization, I think the future does not hold out much hope of accomplishing much for the improvement of agricultural conditions. The women are meeting the increase better than the men. The U. F. A. has never been on a self-supporting basis and without the increased fee I do not see any hope of getting it on to a self-supporting basis except by a serious diminution in the work carried on by the Provincial organization. At the present time needed organization work cannot be done on account of lack of funds. A forceful speaking campaign would be of great value in rallying U. F. A. Locals, but the money necessary to defray the expenses of such a campaign is not in sight.

Political Responsibility

"A word of reminder is also perhaps necessary in some quarters regarding political responsibility. The responsibilities assumed by the membership of the United Farmers of Alberta in the election of a U. F. A. Government in the Province, and a solid representation at Ottawa must be kept clearly in view. A weakened, lukewarm organization cannot have the wholesome effect on public opinion that a numerically strong and alert organization can, while the elected representatives must be able to rely on the organized opinion of U. F. A. members for counsel and advice.

"The spirit existing in many of the Locals, as revealed in reports from secretaries, could not be better. Money is scarce almost everywhere, but many of the Locals are doing everything possible to keep functioning and expect to collect the dues after the crop is harvested. The following extracts are taken from a typical letter and indicate the conditions existing in many Locals:

"Referring to your recent letter, I find it very difficult to collect dues this year. Almost every one here in this district is in debt to one or the other of the

banks, and I am sure you know how hard it is to get loans from them. U. F. A. dues as well as many other bills remain unpaid. There is simply no money in the district. The proceeds from last year's crops were far inadequate to carry the owners through to this harvest.

"So the officers of this Local did not think it advisable to force the collection of dues too strongly. The crops here are good this season and we feel sure that we will be able to increase our membership considerably this fall. I might say that we have handled a car of feed oats and also a half car of binder twine, so you see we are endeavoring to keep before the farmers the value of the U.F.A. in a very concrete way, when they are most in need of assistance.

"The officers realize that our organization must have funds and we will make every effort possible to increase our membership this fall. Our hopes are for a strong Local for 1923."

"Meantime the organization must be kept going and Locals will help by remitting promptly Central Office proportion of all dues collected."

SAVING ON FREIGHT AND MEMBERSHIP FEE

Organization had sent fifty-six members to the House of Commons, had won the Alberta election, and reduced the freight rates on wheat, stated A. G. Andrews, M. L. A., to a meeting held under the auspices of the Viking U. F. A. Local. The occasion was Mr. Andrews' first visit to Viking since his election recently. He pointed out that the yearly membership dues to the U. F. A. are more than met by the saving to farmers in freight on an average load of wheat, owing to the restoration of the Crow's Nest Pass agreement rate. Mrs. Hallum, U. F. W. A. Director, also spoke briefly.

The Constituency Conventions

CAMROSE CONVENTION.

Twenty-nine Locals were represented at the convention of the Camrose U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. Provincial Constituency Association, held on July 5th.

Officers were elected as follows:—President, Parker Rhyason; vice-presidents, Mrs. Ed. Kehoe and C. N. Rovang; directors, Andrew Foss, John Jamieson, A. F. Luger, W. Gillespie, J. Capsey and J. Sherman Fox.

Hon. V. W. Smith spoke on the work of the Provincial Government, dealing especially with that of his own Department—Railways and Telephones. Resolutions were passed wishing Mr. Smith further success, and expressing confidence in the Government.

Further resolutions desired the Central Executive to formulate a plan to consolidate membership fees; expressed approval of the principle of co-operative marketing; asked Central Office to receive membership fees and act as accountants for the association; declaring, with respect to Prof. MacGibbon's investigations, that there was an apparent design to make the evidence favorable to

the banks, and asking the Government to take steps to offset this; asking for a constitutional amendment making it impossible for Locals to rescind any motion without four weeks' notice having been given; and asking the Provincial Government to investigate and if possible develop Alberta's oil resources.

OLDS PROVINCIAL CONVENTION

The second annual convention of the Olds U. F. A. Provincial Constituency Association was held in Olds on August 19th, with the president, W. J. Fisher, in the chair. A further convention will be held in the autumn, when officers will be elected.

N. S. Smith, M.L.A., gave to the delegates a very full report of his work in the Legislature, and in connection with resolutions received from Locals, requests for road work, etc. With regard to patronage, he said that the farmer Government had endeavored to secure efficiency. Mr. Smith thought that financial stringency, and not lack of interest, was responsible for the present difficulty in maintaining membership in the organization.

Discussion showed that there was a feeling that the Olds Co-operative Creamery had not met with impartial treatment, and a resolution asked the Legislature to make a thorough investigation into the conduct of the Provincial dairy department. Another resolution asked that legislation be amended so that cream graders should be qualified to test cream at the request of patrons, or at least once in two weeks for each patron.

THE PLACE OF EDUCATION IN THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

(Continued from page 4)

Grade VIII for Every Child

There should be an end of fault-finding and carping criticism, and a whole-hearted rallying to the support of the rural school and the teacher. "Grade VIII for every child" should be the slogan, and if without lessening our efforts to improve the schools we can contrive to make full "use of what we have got" there can be started a forward movement in education which will not stop until the general standard has been so raised that throughout the length and breadth of this Province a distinctly higher type of life will prevail.

CREDIT INQUIRY BY C.C.A.

The resolution of the Annual Convention calling for the creation of a Federal Loan Department was discussed at the last meeting of the Canadian Council of Agriculture held in Winnipeg recently, George Bevington speaking in its support. The resolution was referred to the different organizations affiliated through the Canadian Council of Agriculture, for their serious consideration. The executive committee of the Council was instructed to select a banking committee, to co-operate with Mr. Bevington in framing a report on the Canadian money and credit system.

"It is not the strength, but the duration of great sentiments that makes great men."—F. Nietzsche.

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No. 4 tin Pure Apricot, Gooseberry, Cherry, Greengage	.93
No. 4 tin Peach or Blackberry	.90
No. 4 tin Plum or Prune	.85
No. 4 tin Climax Mixed Jam In Strawberry, Raspberry, Black Currant, Gooseberry	.60
Case of 12 tins any assortment less 35c. per case.	
Rolled Oats, 20 lb.	.88
40 lbs.	1.65
80 lbs.	3.10
Slam Rice, 10 lbs.	.75
Jap Rice 11 lbs.	1.00
Split Peas, 10 lbs.	1.00
Pot Barley, 10 lbs.	.48
Sago, 10 lbs.	.90
Tapioca, 10 lbs.	.90
Beans, small white, 13 lbs.	1.00
60 lbs.	4.25
Raisins, Seedless, 5 lb. pkg.	1.00
Raisins, Seeded, 5 lb. pkg.	1.00
Raisins, Seedless, 25 lb. box	4.40
Raisins, Seeded, 25 lb. box	4.20
Peaches, Choice, 25 lb. box	6.45
Prunes, California, 50-60, 25 lb. box	5.10
60-70, 25 lb. box	4.70
50-60, 10 lb. box	2.30
60-70, 10 lb. box	2.15
Currants, Recleaned, per lb.	.22
Dominion Hams, 12-14 lbs., per lb.	.40
Dominion Hams, 20-22 lbs., per lb.	.38
Dominion Bacon, 10-12 lbs., per lb.	.40
Windsor Backs, Peamealed, per lb.	.44
Cottage Rolls, Peamealed, per lb.	.32
Salt Pork, per lb.	.24
Crown Syrup, 20 lbs.	1.85
Case of 3x20's	5.35
Rogers Syrup, 20 lbs.	2.05
Case of 3x20's	5.95
Sugar House Molasses, 10's	.87
St. Charles Milk, family, doz.	1.75
Case	6.70
Hotel, doz.	4.20
Case	7.75
Carnation Milk, Tall, doz.	2.10
Case	7.85
Tuxedo Baking Powder, 2½ lbs.	.55
5 lbs.	.95
Eggo Baking Powder, 5 lbs.	1.68
Macaroni, 10 lb. box	1.18
Blue Ribbon Tea, 5 lb. pkg.	2.60
Salada Tea, 5 lbs.	2.90
Perfection Tea, 5 lb. tin box	3.25
Bulk Broken Orange Pekoe, 5 lbs.	2.40
Coffee, Superior Mocha and Java Blend, 10 lb. tin box	4.75
25 lb. tin box	11.70
Extracts, Pure, Lemon, Vanilla or Pineapple, 16 oz. bottle	1.40
Sodas In 20 lb. box, good quality, per lb.	.15
Sodas, McCormicks Jersey Creams In 6 lb. carton	.98
Pumpkin, No. 10 tins, each	.55
Case	3.25
Apples, No. 10 tins, each	.60
Case	3.50
Apricots, No. 10 tins, each	1.18
Case	6.75
Pears, No. 10 tins, each	1.15
Case	6.75

Pickles, Sweet, No. 10 tins, each	1.35
Case	7.95
Pickles, Sour, No. 10 tins, each	1.25
Case	7.20
Pickles, Dills, No. 10 tins, each	1.00
Case	5.80
Catsup, No. 10 tins, each	.80
Case	4.60
Corn, size 2 tin, case 24 tins	3.60
Tomatoes, size 2½ tin, case 24 tins	4.30
Peas, Standard size, 2 tin case 24 tins	4.55
Pure Lard, 20 lb. pail	3.90
50 lb. pail	9.00
Compound, 20 lb. pail	3.70
50 lb. pail	8.50
Sweat Pad, Tepatco, 12 inch draft, brown cover, each	.75
Doz.	8.50
Yellow cover, each	.80
Doz.	9.00
Ventiplex, each	.60
Hard Oil, 5 lb. tin	.90
25 lb. tin	4.40
Axle Grease, 5 lb. tin	.80
25 lb. pail	3.60
Harvester Oil, per gal.	.90
Container extra	.25
5 gals.	4.25
Container extra.	
Best quality Lace Leather, cut ¾ or ½ inch, lb.	2.20
Lantern, Cold Blast, complete	1.15
Alarm Clock, Sleepmeter	2.70
Alarm Clock, Good Morning	1.80
Hammer, Standard size, 1 lb., bell faced with claws	1.45
Rubber Belting, 2 inch, 3 ply, per foot	.18
2½ inch 3 ply, per foot	.22
3 inch 3 ply, per foot	.26
4 inch 4 ply, per foot	.40
Thresher Belts, Endless, Canvas, 120 ft., 8 inch 5 ply, each	82.90
Thresher Belts, Endless, Canvas, 150 ft., 9 inch 5 ply, each	112.95
Write for prices on other sizes.	
Tank Pump Hose, Yellowstone, 2 inch canvass covered, 20 and 25 ft. lengths, per foot	.88
Tank Pump, Meyers, 5 in. cylinder, 5 inch stroke, capacity 2000 gals. per hour, price	19.00
Straw Fork, 4 tine, 14 inch, strap ferrule, 5 ft.	1.85
Straw Fork, 4 tine, 16 inch, strap ferrule, 5 ft.	1.95
Bundle Fork, 3 tine, bent handle	1.50
Bundle Fork Handles, 4½ ft.	.55
5 ft.	.60
Harvesters' Blankets, heavy grey	3.25
5 lbs.	3.25
Overalls, Plain Blue, Black or Blue Stripe, to size 44	2.15
Sizes 46 to 48	2.35
Clover Leaf Cups and Saucers, doz.	2.20
Clover Leaf Plates, 7 in., doz.	3.25
Clover Leaf Plates, 8 in., doz.	3.80
Clover Leaf Vegetables, 8 in., each	.65
White Cups and Saucers, doz.	1.80
White Plates, 7 inch	2.65
White Plates, 8 inch	3.15
White Vegetables, 8 inch	.55

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Notice is hereby given that an application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta, at the next session thereof, for an Act to Regulate the Practice of Chiropractic. The nature and objects of the said proposed Act are,—(a) To incorporate or establish The Chiropractors Association of the Province of Alberta, (b) To fix the duties and establish the powers of such association and of its members, (c) To regulate the practice of Chiropractic in Alberta, and (d) Generally, to legislate with reference to the science and profession of Chiropractic in the same or a similar manner to that in which other professions have been dealt with in this province.

Dated at Edmonton, Alberta, August 3rd, A.D. 1922.

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H. A. CRAIG,
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Please mention "The U.F.A."

The U.F.W.A. and the Junior Branch

A USEFUL HEALTH BULLETIN

Central Office has on hand about 200 copies of a special bulletin issued by the Provincial Department of Public Health on the epidemic influenza, describing symptoms of the disease as it appeared in New York and Eastern Canada in the early part of 1922. The bulletin also contains a very complete description of the various kinds of vital statistics, their purpose, interrelation, and value. Both articles would provide good material for discussion at a U. F. W. A. Local meeting. The U. F. W. A. was one of the first organizations to urge that the Provincial Government provide for a Department of Public Health. Our Locals, therefore, should be especially interested in the work the Department is doing. The bulletin mentioned above may be secured by applying to the U. F. A. Central Office, Calgary. Further material on public health may be secured on application to the Department of Public Health, Government Buildings, Edmonton.

J. B. K.

THE VALUE OF THE CONSTITUTION

I wonder if we fully realize the great importance of a thorough study and carrying out of the constitution in our Junior Clubs.

I wonder how many of our Junior Clubs have a copy of the constitution of the Junior Section in their possession.

I wonder how many are so familiar with it that they govern their Locals according to it.

Perhaps it seems to you unnecessary to stick so closely to parliamentary rules. It may seem almost foolish to you to call for a mover and seconder to every motion, especially those dealing with picnics, concerts, etc.

But there is a real reason why these constitutional rules should be observed. It is a well known fact that the fundamental social change which this Dominion of ours must undergo in the near future, and which it is indeed already undergoing, is going to rest almost entirely with the younger generation. It is often overlooked that we "Juniors" who are now meeting in each other's homes and in the country school houses, passing resolutions concerning picnics, tennis courts and baseball teams, will before long be the "Seniors" taking part in the big U. F. A. and U. F. W. A. conventions at Calgary and Edmonton. It is when we are called on at such a gathering as this, to vote on some real economic question, that we will look back on our earlier years, and be truly thankful for the training received in the little Junior U. F. A. meeting. Every year at the general Convention a certain amount of time is lost through delegates who have not made themselves familiar with parliamentary procedure. This is one difficulty which can be overcome if we will but take a little more time and thought to grasp the real meaning of such terms as "point of information", "moving an amendment", "the previous question", etc. These terms can become as familiar to us as our own language, but we must remember it is not through knowing alone, but putting into practice what we have learned. Then take this step which is a preparation for citizenship.

Upon self-governing bodies constitutions are not imposed by higher powers. They are the very soul of self-governing organizations. Wherever people are gathered together for any purpose at all they must follow a constitution, for without one, an organization would be a mob.

Then let us get together, and study the constitution which is adapted to meet our particular needs.

EVA M. PEEL,
Junior Branch Secretary.

:o:

SHALL WE GO FORWARD OR TURN
BACK?

(Continued from page 1)

tical party system by over two centuries of active operation. It has had ample time to give mature results. If these results are satisfactory there is no justification for trying any new thing. If they are not satisfactory, something else must be found to take the place of this inefficient system. The fact that there is a general turning away from the old party system indicates the general and growing dissatisfaction with it.

The farmers are offering something to take its place. They are offering a new system, a system by which, through organization, the citizens can co-operate in the exercise of their citizenship duties, and develop an ever-increasing capacity for doing so. This new thing has had very little opportunity to demonstrate its value, but already, for some reason, there is great anxiety and nervous haste to destroy it. Why?

It is criticized by some of its open opponents because it has not risen at once from human weakness and human frailties to giant strength and godlike perfection. Worst of all, it is suggested that it is about to be crucified by those who have, through its favor, been enabled to come in sight of the golden gate of the alluring temple of political autocracy. This gate cannot be passed by those who continue to represent a democratic organization. It is said that some of the members who received nomination and election at the hands of farmers' organizations are seriously considering dissociating themselves from those organizations, and at the same time continuing to hold office that they accepted as representatives of those organizations. If this is true, then bitter indeed are the first fruits of the young tree of democracy. How badly have we chosen, and how Herculean is the task before us!

It will be only fair and just to assume that these members accepted nomination and election in good faith, believing in what they were undertaking to represent, and that after getting in a different environment and under a different influence, they changed their minds, and now think they were wrong and that after all the political party system is right. This, of course, they had a perfect right to do, and the process might be perfectly honest and honorable. But is it right, and square dealing, to continue to hold office after they have withdrawn from their electors, and are representing no one but themselves? Should they not, when they find that they can no longer conscientiously represent what they undertook to represent, lay down their commission and seek re-election on the basis of their new-born convictions?

"To rejoice on account of praise is in many cases merely politeness of heart—and the very opposite of vanity of spirit."—Friedrich Nietzsche.



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Let the U.F.A. Stay With the Fight

By Mrs. E. A. Pugh, Millerfield.

The men and women of our farms have a sacred trust to perform in providing for their children homes with an atmosphere of refinement and beauty. Unless we have the means to make our homes attractive, our children lose this advantage. It may well be asked, where are we to get those means?

Must Fight Unitedly

My answer is that if we farm men and women work from early morning until late at night, we are surely entitled to a just reward that will enable us to make our homes approximate our ideals, and not just a bare existence, to make homes that are not merely shelters from the weather. We are entitled to comfortable and beautiful homes, and the best possible education for our children. And to get this just return for our labor, we must fight together in our organization, the U. F. A.

We have made two steps forward in the last two elections, but we have not yet solved the problem of marketing our products. This is a big task, but it must be accomplished if we are to secure our rights—less drudgery and a fair opportunity for our children.

Election of Members Not Enough

Our present membership is less than last year's, owing, doubtless, to continued adversity. But I believe there is still in the minds of our members a determination to stay with the fight. Citizens should not cease to take interest in public affairs after sending representatives to legislate for them. We must pay close attention to Government legis-

lation and administration. It is our duty to see that public affairs are managed not for the advantage of those in charge, but for the prosperity of the whole Dominion. We must accept our responsibility in this matter by taking an active interest in our organization.

The representatives we elected in this Province last December have done good work in preventing the suspension of the Crow's Nest Pass agreement. Had there not been a strong protest from the Western members in the House of Commons, our arguments would have had no weight. But the Crow's Nest Pass rates on wheat and flour were secured, and this means a saving of between 6 and 7 cents per bushel on every bushel of wheat we ship. If a farmer has fifty acres of wheat which yields only ten bushels to the acre, there is a net return of \$35 on this one item. When, as we undoubtedly must, we are able to get the wheat board to control the flow of wheat, this will likely save us another ten cents per bushel at least. Either of these savings will amply repay us for anything we have put into the U. F. A.

Stick to Your Locals

I believe we are at the crisis of hard times just now, but we hope for a succession of good years following the lean years. I appeal to all of you to stick to your Locals, to work together, for we can accomplish nothing alone. We must all put our shoulders to the wheel and push together, and then nothing can prevent us from obtaining our goal of justice for ourselves and our children.

The Sessional Indemnity

Resolutions of Locals and a Reply by a Member of the Legislature

The Stettler U. F. A. District Association at a meeting on August 12th passed the following resolution, which was forwarded to "The U. F. A.":

"Whereas the members of the U.F.A. organization have always been opposed to extravagant expenditure of the people's money by Governments, and

"Whereas, when asking for needed reforms delegations are often told by members of Governments (our present Government being no exception) that financial conditions would not allow the necessary expenditure for these measures to be carried out;

"Therefore be it resolved that we, the members of the Stettler District Association, do protest the extravagant sessional indemnity paid the members of the Alberta Legislative Assembly in their recent sitting in the House."

While the above is the only resolution bearing on the matter of the sessional indemnity which has been received by "The U. F. A." since the last issue went to press, the daily newspapers have contained reports of one or two others, including a resolution by the Ridgewood Local, of which copies were sent to members of the Alberta Legislature. This resolution, as published in the daily press, reads as follows:

"Be it resolved, that this Local demand that all U.F.A. members of the Alberta Legislative Assembly do at once return to the treasury \$150 each;

"Further, should any member, as mentioned above, fail to return such money, this Local shall place a resolution before the Annual Convention, demanding the expulsion of such persons from the membership of the U.F.A., and their immediate resignation from the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, such people being in the eyes of this Local unfit to belong to the U.F.A."

A Member's Reply

To the above resolution, and to a circular which accompanied it, one of the U. F. A. members of the Legislature has replied as follows:

A. W. Martin, Esq.,

Secretary Ridgewood Local. U. F. A.

Dear Sir:

Thanks for a copy of your circular entitled "For Clean Government." I am taking the liberty of replying to this, not because I am directly concerned in the action you are taking, as I am responsible solely to my constituency organization for any action of mine, in or out of the Legislature. Right here let me say that immediately upon arriving home I placed \$100 of the special indemnity with the President to be held at the disposal of the executive committee to return or otherwise as they see fit to do. The balance I retained as I considered this amount only fair recompense for extra expenses entailed and time lost in a busy season by reason of the two trips necessitated to Edmonton over the Wheat Board question.

I am glad that the indemnity question is coming to a head as this will result in its being thoroughly threshed out and in removing it from the field of not entirely disinterested newspaper propaganda. I believe this matter is being built up on largely false premises, and it is in an endeavor to contribute my quota towards the enlightenment of the public that I am writing your Local personally.

Action in Committee

I consider the reports published of the vote on the special indemnity unfair and biased in the light of what actually happened. The bill as introduced, calling for \$200, was amended on the motion of R. Pearson, Calgary, to \$250, in committee of the whole. An aye and no vote was taken, and it is my impression that the noes had it, although the chairman decided in favor of the ayes, and I do not believe more than one or two farmer members voted aye. A motion to reconsider was declared out of order. Mr. Smith of Red Deer led the fight in opposition, and as I understand your Local is in his constituency no doubt you will receive a full report from him. In my opinion it is another instance of the trouble that nearly always results from introducing legislation before taking it into conference, although we have been dealt with just as severely by the press for doing this as in the matter under review. I am unalterably opposed to a controlled caucus, but a conference does result in more carefully digested legislation and in more cohesive, uniform, and intelligent action on the part of a group, and I cannot see how action of this nature on the part of any group can be avoided. Had the amount of the indemnity been so considered, concerted action would have been taken, which would have stopped the mistake, which I freely admit was made.

There are angles to the indemnity paid, not generally understood. There is a vast difference between \$2,000 sessional indemnity and \$2,000 salary for work at home. Travelling expenses have to be met, to country members the expense of keeping up a car (which is necessary if a member in a large constituency is to fulfil his duty to his constituents efficiently), and, greatest of all, payment of others to take care of the work on the farm. To my mind the recognition only of services rendered during a session is wrong and misleading. Any rural member will tell you that practically all of his time has to be devoted to the work. No farmer can afford to keep up a team to work only at short and irregular periods, such as would be the case if a rural member attempted to drive one of his own teams. The sessional indemnity makes no provision for the extra expense entailed on a rural member in covering a large constituency, nor does it allow anything for a member living at a long distance from the capital, in some cases entailing two and three days of travelling, with the additional travelling expenses and time lost in going back and forwards on business for his constituency.

We have suffered in the past from executive government with the Legislature a rubber stamp to register approval. If we are to get away from this it will be necessary for the private members to have a general knowledge of Provincial conditions and this can only be gained by travel. The Government has made a start towards this by dividing the members among departments to which they will give their special attention. To reap the full measure of benefit it will be necessary for the members of the railway committee to familiarize themselves with the railway situation at first hand, and for the agricultural members to have first hand knowledge of the schools and farms and other activities of that Department, and thus all the way through,

(Continued on page 14)

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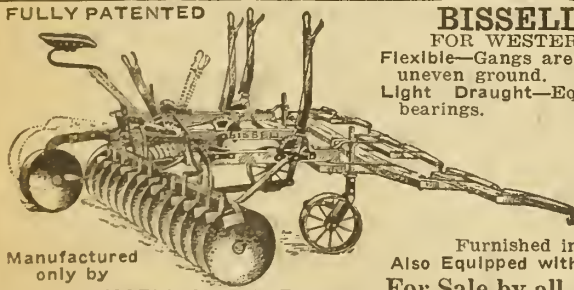
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CALGARY

EDMONTON

THE FIGHT FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE CROW'S NEST PASS AGREEMENT

(Continued from page 5)

Cabinet's recommendation because they claimed the Government should assume the responsibility of determining its policy on the issue and should not relieve itself of its obligation by shifting the burden to a Committee.

\$14,000,000 on Grain Alone

The Committee was duly constituted with a membership of 27 under the chairmanship of Hon. A. K. MacLean. Work was immediately begun. Much evidence was heard. The railway companies represented that taking their 1921 business as a basis a reversion to the Crow's Nest rates would mean an annual loss to the Canadian Pacific of some \$16,000,000 and to the Canadian National an annual loss of \$10,000,000, and that a reversion to the Crow's Nest rate on grain alone, on the same basis, would mean a total loss in earnings to the railways of over \$14,000,000.

Witnesses appeared on behalf of British Columbia supporting a further suspension on the ground that a restoration would aggravate the existing rate discrimination against British Columbia and indefinitely postpone the longed-for rate equalization.

Representatives of the Maritime Provinces pointed out that a return to the Crow's Nest rates in the prairie Provinces would provide relief to that part of Canada only, and that as a result their Provinces would continue to suffer despite an alleged implied obligation under the Confederation pact guaranteeing special rate consideration.

In addition special business interests affected were heard, almost all desiring a further suspension.

Case for Prairie Provinces

The case for the prairie Provinces was well presented, Premier Greenfield very ably giving the Alberta viewpoint, while Hon. George Langley and Mr. Reid, a former Federal member for MacKenzie Constituency, presented the case fully for Saskatchewan. Norman Lambert and H. J. Symington, K.C., both of Winnipeg, urged with great vigor the Manitoba attitude. Representatives of the prairie Provinces were a unit in asking for the restoration of the Crow's Nest rates and placed special emphasis on the vital necessity for the restoration of the agreement, at least so far as grain rates were affected.

Numerous arguments both for and against were advanced. Opponents of the restoration pointed out that fixing the rates by legislation is vicious in principle; that the suggested reduction on all basic commodities was much preferable, as it would give the greatest measure of relief to all sections of the Dominion, and that if the restoration were allowed the West only would profit at the expense of the rest of Canada, while the railways would cease to earn their usual dividends. Those favoring the restoration, on the other hand, argued that while Eastern Canada had water and rail competition as a controlling factor in checking freight rates, the prairie Provinces had no such natural safeguard, and that for this purpose the Crow's Nest pact had been passed by Parliament and in addition had, from time to time, been preserved and approved by Parliament in the various consolidations of the Railway Act. It was further pointed out that while a general

reduction in rates on basic commodities was highly desirable and would do much to relieve business paralysis existing everywhere in Canada, the agreement was a sacred contract made for the benefit of the West, and justice demanded its immediate re-application. Such re-application, it was urged, would materially advantage the agricultural industry of the West at the time of its greatest crisis, and the resultant prosperity of Canadian agricultural interests would promptly be reflected in every phase of our industrial and business life.

To Relieve Existing Discrimination

The Western representatives further claimed that even in normal times the rates west of Fort William were 15 to 18 per cent. higher than the Eastern rates; that owing to the bulk traffic in grain and the long haul, "the best paying traffic," the West, though less in population, provided the greatest net railroad earnings, (this fact was proven from the figures furnished by the railways themselves); that the suspension of the Crow's Nest Agreement, with the various percentage increases, had simply aggravated the disparity existing under normal conditions; and therefore that a restoration of the agreement would, to some extent, relieve the existing discrimination against the West. In answer to the argument that the railway companies would, in the event of restoration, cease to earn their usual dividends, it was contended that rates should bear some relation to the cost of service, but that under the existing conditions of higher rates while dividends were maintained, industry was paralyzed; that the railway companies built up tremendous reserves and these reserves, as in other businesses, should be available for rainy days.

Committee Makes Volte Face

The Parliamentary Committee after much discussion decided, by the casting vote of the chairman, to suspend the agreement, but later, owing to the militant attitude of the members from the three prairie Provinces, made a volte-face and recommended its restoration so far as it affected eastbound grain and flour. The report of the Committee passed the House of Commons with little delay and legislation making it effective was promptly incorporated in the statutes.

Following Parliament's action the Railway Commission ordered the restoration of Crow's Nest rates so far as grain and flour were concerned, and, in addition, ordered a general reduction of 7½ per cent. on named basic commodities, such reduction to apply throughout Canada.

It is unnecessary to point out the significance of these rate reductions. The moneys lost by the railway companies in hauling grain to Fort William will be found in the pockets of the grain producers in the West. Industries hitherto staggering under the high rates will be given a new lease of life, business will be revived and the reductions will materially assist in relieving and dissipating the existing business paralysis.

Such a great victory for the West was rendered possible only by the united front presented on the question by farm and labor organizations, boards of trade and individuals without number co-operating with the Federal members from the prairie Provinces to achieve the success, while the Western newspapers almost without exception lent splendid support, editorially and otherwise, to the cause. It was a splendid victory in a just cause.



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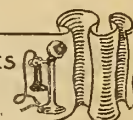
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THE SESSIONAL INDEMNITY

(Continued from page 11)

but here again the question of expense enters in.

Many other ways could be suggested by which the members could increase efficiency and service rendered, but always the question of means is the deciding factor, unless we decide to select our representatives from those financially able to bear a portion of the costs, as has been the custom in the past, of which the idea of "sessional indemnity" is the last remaining relic. This would appear to be a fatal mistake, as only by electing men of a like condition who have shared and personally experienced like disabilities with ourselves can we hope to remove these disabilities, and indeed this is the basis of our farmers' movement. Articles and reports appearing in the public press should be taken with salt, as they do not always try to place our actions in their true light; and their attitude at best towards us is neutral, and I have a suspicion that a determined attempt will be made to discredit the U. F. A. in the eyes of the public, because of the belief that it is the main obstacle in the way of a reversion to the old party system. Before action is taken or judgment made on any published utterance or action on the part of anyone connected, the actual facts should be verified by someone personally acquainted with the same.

Soundness of U. F. A. Policy

In conclusion this question proves to me the soundness and rightness of our policy, as with our political organization always functioning mistakes can be remedied, or betrayal of our wishes dealt with before corruption of the whole occurs.

Hoping you will receive this with a belief in the sincerity and desire to clear away misunderstandings in which it is written, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Government Will Market Pure Seed

Expect to Handle 100,000 Bushels of Seed in Accordance with Important New Undertaking

By Publicity Commissioner, Edmonton

Marketing of seed grain on an extensive scale and in accordance with a plan which will seek to encourage the production of pure seed in the Province, will be undertaken by the Provincial Department of Agriculture as a result of arrangements completed by officials of the Department, and given the official approval of Hon. Geo. Hoadley, Minister of Agriculture. The announcement of the new scheme was made by H. A. Craig, deputy minister, a few days ago.

Cleaning and Grading Plant

The new marketing plan involves not only the distribution of seed for production purposes as formerly, but contemplates also the establishment of a cleaning and grading plant at Edmonton, through which all seed grain to be marketed under the new plan will be handled, and further provides for the advancement to the farmers, on consignments of seed grain to the Government plant, of 65 per cent. of the commercial elevator price, with a certificate covering the balance. The seed will be sold to the best possible advantage, and the balance, after expenses are deducted, will be paid to the growers. It is not the desire, however, that exorbitant prices be paid, but that reasonable premiums be obtained.

It is anticipated that 100,000 bushels of seed grain of all varieties will be handled under the new scheme this year. The handling and marketing is to be under the supervision of the field crops branch of the Provincial Department of Agriculture, over which W. J. Stephen, crops commissioner, presides.

Will Stimulate Production of Pure Seed
The new marketing plan is one of the most ambitious yet undertaken by the Department, and is calculated to stimulate to a great degree the production of pure seed. Distribution of pure seed for production purposes will continue to be undertaken by the field husbandry branch of the University of Alberta, under Prof. Cutler, in co-operation with the field crops branch of the Government. The Department, however, undertakes to be responsible for the quality of seed supplied to these farmers, no matter from what source it may come. Only reputable farmers known for their careful farming methods will be encouraged to handle the seed grain thus supplied.

The field crops branch of the Department of Agriculture will inspect the growing grain produced from the registered seed supplied. Any farmer, however, who can satisfy the crops commissioner that he is growing seed grain that can be registered, and can pass inspection of the commissioner, will have the opportunity of marketing his seed under the new Government scheme.

Authority for the Creamery Levy

In a letter received from Mrs. Herbert Stone, secretary treasurer of the Bridstow Local of the U.F.A. at Islay, the following questions are asked:—

"1. Why has 50c. been collected by the creameries from each patron by deduction made from their cream cheques to fight oleomargarine?"

"2. Where do those who are responsible for this deduction get their authority?"

Replying to question 1, the reason for this deduction was given in an announcement by the Producers' Section of the Alberta Dairymen's Association published in the June 15th issue of "The U.F.A." as follows:—

"Whereas the National Dairy Council is vital in the dairy development of this Province and the Dominion; and whereas the Council requires much capital to be efficient and for development; therefore we, the producers, go on record as favoring the donation of fifty cents per producer, to be collected in the week ending July 3 by the co-operation of manufacturers and producers; money to be divided equally between the Producers' Section of the Alberta Dairymen's Association and the National Dairy Council."

It will be seen from the above resolution that the deduction is made from the cheques of the patrons of the various creameries of the Province for the support of the two organizations, the Alberta Dairymen's Association and the National Dairy Council. We presume it is not correct to state that the deduction was made expressly for the purpose of "fighting oleomargarine," although that is one of the avowed objects of the National Dairy Council.

The resolution quoted above, passed by the Alberta Dairymen's Association, is the only authority that we know of for this deduction. It is obvious that there was no legal authority, as the Producers' Section of the Alberta Dairymen's Association was not directly authorized by the twenty thousand or more producers of milk or cream in the Province to make this deduction from their cheques, and this was recognized by the creameries who made the deduction when they sent to their patrons a printed slip informing them that the reduction had been made, and that if they made a formal protest the money deducted would be refunded on their next cheque.

The arbitrary method of this collection has been objected to by some of the producers' representatives in the Alberta Dairymen's Association, as the collection unquestionably involves the principle of "taxation without representation."

The only argument advanced by the supporters of the contribution has been to cite the urgent need of funds on the part of the Alberta Dairymen's Association and the National Dairy Council in particular, and to state that the requisite funds could not be raised by voluntary contributions.—Editor "The U.F.A."

U.F.A. LEGAL DEPARTMENT

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Question: I built a chicken house and house on land that does not belong to me. Can I remove them?

Answer: If the buildings are movable and in the nature of chattels, not being attached to the land, they may be removed, providing there is no agreement to the contrary.

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FOR SALE—MODERN BIG TYPE POLAND China Hogs; the real bacon type; the kind that develop to the required weight in 5 or 6 months at 220 lbs. The Government had two of my gilts on their demonstrating train last winter, so you may have seen them. Have 100 to choose from, any age, either sex, from weanings to matured hogs, at reasonable prices. Ship the best only. **TWO BLACK REGISTERED PERCHERON STUD COLTS;** exceptionally good ones, weighing up to 1775 at 2 years old; not a pimple on them; out of mares weighing 1900 to 2100 lbs.; will sell reasonable. For full particulars write T. O. Felland, Wetaskiwin, Alta. 10

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IT IS YOURS The call to Banff has been sounded, and is being heard by all your Prairie friends.

Meet them there and enjoy with them a bracing holiday, riding, hunting, boating, fishing, swimming, or bathing at the natural hot sulphur springs.

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